

Atty. Docket No. YOR920010425US1
(590.072)

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated April 14, 2005, pending Claims 1-21 were rejected and the rejection made final. Of these claims, Claims 1, 11 and 21 are independent claims; the remaining claims are dependent claims. All claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated Chaudhari et al. (hereinafter "Chaudhari"). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office notes that Chaudhari has a common assignee and inventors with the present application and asserts the applied reference constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Applicants do not now address whether Chaudhari is in fact prior art, but reserve the right to do so.

As best understood, Chaudhari appears to be provide acoustic feature transformations to model the voice print of speakers with the aim of maximizing the likelihood of the speaker training data to the resulting model in the new feature space. Speakers are recognized or classified by appropriately comparing the likelihood of the test data in each transformed feature space and/or by comparing transformation matrices obtained during speaker enrollment and testing. (Column 2, lines 13-25) The model is adapted using the training data that is parameterized by the maximum likelihood estimates of mean vector, covariance matrix, and component weight. (Column 4, lines 30-49)

The instant invention recognizes the adaptation and classification method of Chaudhari as prior art. Specifically, the Background of the Invention states that

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"[s]tandard adaptation techniques modify the system's 'structural' parameters, for example the statistical mean and covariance values (in systems with Gaussian density models), so as to maximize some objective function, e.g., the observation probability or likelihood of the adaptation data, whereby these structural parameters are the same as those estimated in the primary system training. Due to the fact that the number of such parameters may be high in complex systems, an effective adaptation requires a correspondingly large amount of adaptation data in order to achieve robustness of the modified parameters." (Page 1, line 12 to Page 2, line 2) Applicants use this analysis of the adaptation technique as a reason to present a further need in the field to undertake adaptation with smaller amounts of data. Thus, Applicants present a method of "adapting the classification system via adapting the at least one derived function of the classification system". (Claim 1) Similar language appears in all of the independent claims. There is no teaching or suggestion in Chaudhari of using such an adaptation technique. In fact, there is explicit teaching to the contrary in Chaudhari, as stated above, wherein the adaptation is performed with the aim of maximizing the likelihood of the speaker training data.

It is respectfully submitted that the applied art clearly falls short of present invention in that the applied art does not disclose or suggest "adapting the classification system via adapting the at least one derived function of the classification system ". Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the applied art does not anticipate the present invention because, at the very least, "[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under construction." W.L. Gore &

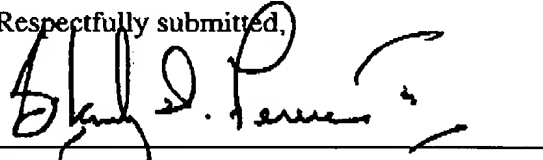
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Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, 721 F.2d 1540, 1554 (Fed. Cir. 1983); see also In re Marshall,
198 U.S.P.Q. 344, 346 (C.C.P.A. 1978).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 11, and 21
fully distinguish over the applied art and are thus in condition for allowance. By virtue of
dependence from what are believed to be allowable independent Claims 1 and 11, it is
respectfully submitted that Claims 2-9, and 12-20 are also presently allowable.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, including
Claims 1-21, is presently in condition for allowance. Notice to the effect is earnestly
solicited. If there are any further issues in this application, the Examiner is invited to
contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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